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#### (54) Title: STRESS PROTEINS AND USES THEREFOR

#### (57) Abstract

**(i)** 

The present invention relates to stress proteins and methods of modulating an individual's immune response. In particular, it relates to the use of such stress proteins in immune therapy and prophylaxis, which results in an induction or enhancement of an individual's immune response and as an immunotherapeutic agent which results in a decrease of an individual's immune response to his or her own cells. The present invention also relates to compositions comprising a stress protein joined to another component, such as a fusion protein in which a stress protein is fused to an antigen.

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#### STRESS PROTEINS AND USES THEREFOR

#### Description

## Background of the Invention

Although the function of stress proteins is not

entirely clear, it appears that some participate in
assembly and structural stabilization of certain cellular
and viral proteins, and their presence at high
concentrations may have an additional stabilizing effect
during exposure to adverse conditions. Neidhardt, F.C.

and R.A. Van Bogelen, <u>In: Escherichia coli and Salmonella typhimurium</u>, Cellular and Molecular Biology, (eds. Neidhardt, F.C., Ingraham, J.L., Low, K.B., Magasanik, B. Schaechter, M. and Umbarger, H.E. (Am. Soc. Microbiol., Washington, D.C.), pp. 1334-1345 (1987); Pelham, H.R.B.

15 Cell, 46:959-961 (1986); Takano, T. and T. Kakefuda,

Nature, 239:34-37 (1972); Georgopoulos, C. et al., New

Biology, 239:38-41 (1972). Phagocytic host cells produce
a hostile environment of foreign organisms, and the
ability to produce stress proteins has been implicated in
the survival of bacterial pathogens within macrophages
Christman, M.F. et al., Cell, 41:753-762 (1985).

Mycobacterium (M.) tuberculosis and Mycobacterium

(M.) leprae are the etiologic agents of tuberculosis and leprosy, respectively. These diseases afflict 20-30

25 million people and continue to present a significant global health problem. Joint International Union Against Tuberculosis and World Health Organization Study Group,

Tubercle, 63:157-169 (1982); Bloom, B. and T. Godal, Rev.

Infect Dis. 5:765-780 (1983). To develop more effective tools for the diagnosis and prevention of these diseases, it is important to understand the immune response to infection by mycobacterial pathogens.

The antibody and T-cell responses to infection or inoculation with killed mycobacteria have been studied in humans and in animals. Human patients with tuberculosis or leprosy produce serum antibodies directed against at 5 least 12 mycobacterial proteins. Some of these proteins are also recognized by well-characterized murine monoclonal antibodies. Mice immunized with mycobacterial lysates produce antibodies that are directed predominantly to six M. tuberculosis and six M. leprae protein antigens. 10 Engers, H.D. <u>Infect. Immun.</u>, <u>48</u>:603-605 (1985); Engers, H.D., <u>Infect. Immun.</u>, <u>51</u>:718-720 (1986). Genes encoding these 12 mycobacterial antigens have been cloned, and recombinant proteins produced from these clones have been used to investigate the human T-lymphocyte response to 15 mycobacterial infection. Husson, R.N. and R.A. Young, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 84:1679-1683 (1987); Young, R.A. et al., Nature, 316:450-452 (1985); Britton, W.J. et al., Lepr. Rev., 57, Suppl. 2, 67-75 (1986).

Protection against mycobacterial disease involves 20 cell-mediated immunity. Joint International Union Against Tuberculosis and World Health Organization Study Group, Tubercle, 63:157-169 (1982); Hahn, H. and S.H.E. Kaufman, Rev. Infect. Dis., 3:1221-1250 (1981). T-lymphocytes cloned from patients or from volunteers immunized with killed mycobacteria have been tested for their ability to recognize the recombinant mycobacterial proteins. Lymphocyte-proliferation assays demonstrate that most of the antigens identified with monoclonal antibodies are involved in the T-cell response to mycobacterial infection or vaccination in mice and in humans. Limiting dilution analysis indicates that 20% of the mycobacterial-reactive CD4 T-lymphocytes in mice immunized with M. tuberculosis recognize a single protein, the 65-kDa antigen. Kaufman, S.H.E. et al., Eur J. Immunol., 17:351-357 (1987).

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#### Summary of the Invention

The present invention relates to stress proteins and methods of modulating an individual's (such as a human, other mammal or other vertebrate) immune response. 5 particular, it relates to the use of such stress proteins in immune therapy or prophylaxis, which results in an induction or enhancement of an individual's immune response and as an immunotherapeutic agent which results in a decrease of an individual's response to his or her In the embodiment in which an individual's 10 own cells. immune response is induced or enhanced, the induced or enhanced response can be a response to antigens, such as those derived from a pathogen or cancer cell, or can be upregulation of the individual's immune status, such as in 15 an immune compromised individual. In immune prophylaxis, stress proteins are administered to prevent or reduce the effects in an individual of a pathogen, which can be any virus, microorganism, parasite or other organism or substance (e.g., a toxin or toxoid) which causes disease 20 or to prevent or reduce the effects in an individual of cancer cells. In preventing or reducing adverse effects of pathogens which contain stress proteins (e.g., bacteria, parasite, fungus) according to the method of the present invention, an individual's immune response to the pathogen's stress protein(s) is induced or enhanced through the administration of a vaccine which includes the pathogen's stress protein(s) or other stress proteins. The stress protein can be administered alone, as a member or component of a conjugate (e.g., joined to another antigen by chemical or recombinant means such as joined to a fusion partner resulting in a fusion protein), or as an adjuvant or carrier molecule to enhance or obtain a desired immune response to an antigen. The present invention also relates to compositions comprising a stress protein joined to another component, such as a fusion

protein in which a stress protein is fused to an antigen.

Preventing or reducing adverse effects of viral pathogens which do or do not contain stress proteins, as well as preventing or reducing the adverse effects of cancer cells according to the present method, is effected by enhancing an individual's immune surveillance system. Enhancement of immune response can be effected by modulating the immune cells by stimulation with a stress protein (e.g., a bacterial stress protein).

In the embodiment in which an individual's immune response is decreased, such as is used in treating autoimmune diseases, stress proteins known to be involved in the autoimmune response are administered to turn down an individual's immune response by tolerizing the individual to the stress proteins. Alternatively, the immune response to stress protein, which is known to occur in autoimmune disease, is reduced by interfering with the ability of immune cells which respond to stress proteins to do so.

20 A selected stress protein of the present invention can be administered to an individual, according to the method of the present invention, and result in an immune response which provides protection against subsequent infection by a pathogen (e.g., bacteria, other infectious agents which produce stress proteins) or reduction or prevention of adverse effects of cancer cells. Alternatively, a selected stress protein can be administered to an individual, generally over time, to induce immune tolerance against the selected stress protein. For example, a selected stress protein can be administered in multiple doses over time in order to induce immune tolerance against an autoimmune disease such as rheumatoid arthritis.

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## Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a graphic representation of the homologies between mycobacterial antigens and known stress proteins. Figure 1A is a representation of sequence similarity between portions of the M. tuberculosis 71-kDa antigen (residues 1-204; TB 71 kDa) and the E. coli DnaK protein (residues 430-639). Figure 1B is a representation of sequence similarity between portions of the M. tuberculosis 65-kDa antigen (residues 1-540; TB 65 kDa) and the E. coli GroEL protein (residues 1-547).

Figure 2 is a comparison of the amino acid sequence of the human P1 protein (573 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 1) and the amino acid sequence of the groEL protein (547 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 2).

15 Figure 3 is a comparison of the amino acid sequence of the human P1 protein (573 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 1), which is a homolog of groEL protein, and the amino acid sequence of the 65 kDa M. leprae protein (540 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 3).

20 Figure 4 is a comparison of the amino acid sequence of the human P1 protein (573 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 1), which is a homolog of the groEL protein, and the amino acid sequence of the 65kDa M. tuberculosis protein (540 residues) (SEQ ID NO: 4).

Figure 5 is a schematic representation of selected stress protein fusion vectors which contain a polylinker with multiple cloning sites permitting incorporation of a gene of interest.

Figure 6 is a schematic representation of the stress protein fusion vector, pKS70 containing the T7 RNA polymerase promoter, a polylinker and the mycobacterial tuberculosis hsp70 gene, and the stress protein fusion vector pKS72 containing the HIV p24 gag gene subcloned into the pKS70 vector.

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Figure 7 is a graph illustrating the anti-p24 antibody titer in mice injected with the p24-hsp70 fusion protein, p24 alone and hsp70 alone.

## Detailed Description of the Invention

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Cells respond to a variety of stressful stimuli by increasing the synthesis of specific stress proteins. The most extensively studied cellular response to stressful stimuli is the synthesis of heat shock proteins (hsp) by a cell, induced by a sudden increase in temperature.

10 Because many of the heat shock proteins are also induced by other stresses, they are frequently called stress proteins. Stress proteins and their relatives appear to help assemble and disassemble protein complexes. In bacteria, the major stress proteins, hsp70 and hsp60,

occur at moderate levels in cells that have not been stressed but accumulate to very high levels in stressed cells. For example, hsp70 and hsp60 normally account for 1-3% of total <u>E. coli</u> protein, but can accumulate to about 25% under stressful conditions. Eukaryotic hsp70 and

hsp60 proteins do not accumulate to these extreme levels. Their levels range from undetectable to moderately abundant, depending on the organism and cell type.

The present invention is based on the observation
that stress proteins are among the major antigens
available for presentation to T lymphocytes and may be
common immune targets in a broad spectrum of infectious
diseases. Immune responses to stress proteins are
involved in immune surveillance by the body and a variety
of different T cell types has been shown to recognize
highly conserved stress protein determinants. Several
observations, described below, suggest a model of immune
surveillance in which self-reactive T cells provide a
first line of defense against infection or other invasion
by pathogens, which include, but are not limited to,

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viruses, microorganisms, other organisms, substances such as toxins and toxoids, and agents which cause cell transformation, by recognizing and helping to eliminate stressed autologous cells, as well as cells infected with intracellular pathogens. Without wishing to be bound by this model, it is presented as one means by which it is possible to explain why prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells respond to a variety of potentially damaging stimuli, such as elevated temperature, by increasing the synthesis of a family of proteins, referred to as stress proteins, which are among the most highly conserved and abundant proteins found in nature.

Investigation of antigens involved in the immune response to the tuberculosis and leprosy bacilli (M. tuberculosis and M. leprae) initially led to the observation that a variety of stress proteins are among the major targets of the immune response, as is described at greater length below.

Further assessment has demonstrated that stress 20 proteins may be common immune targets in a broad spectrum of infectious diseases. Sequence analysis has revealed 70-kDa heat shock protein homologues among major antigens of the protozoan parasites Plasmodium falciparum (Bianco, A.E. et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 83:8713-8717 25 (1986)) and <u>Schistosoma mansoni</u> (Hedstrom, R. et al., J. Exp. Med., 165:1430-1435 (1987)) and the malarial parasite Brugia malayi (Selkirk, M.E. et al., J. Cell Biochem., 12D:290 (1988)). Similarly, homologues of GroEL have been found among antigens involved in the immune response to Salmonella typhimurium and Coxiella (Vodkin, M.H. and J.C. Williams, <u>J. Bacteriol</u>, <u>170</u>:1227 (1988)), as well as Bordetella pertussis (Del Giudice, G., et al., J. of Imm., 150: 2025-2032 (1993)). The presence of stress proteins among major immune targets in a variety of human pathogens 35 is support for the idea that the stress response may be a

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general component of infection and that stress proteins should be considered among candidates for subunit vaccines. All organisms respond to heat by inducing synthesis of heat shock proteins (hsp), which are a group 5 of proteins. This response is the most highly conserved genetic system known and has been shown to occur in every organism, including microorganisms, plants and animals, investigated to date. Many of the characteristics of the response are common to all organisms and the hsp are among 10 the most highly conserved proteins known. For example, hsp90 family and hsp70 family proteins are present in widely diverse organisms. The proteins in each family-even in such diverse organisms--show approximately 50% identity at the amino acid level and at the nonidentical 15 residues, exhibit many similarities. Several of the proteins induced by heat are also induced by a variety of other stresses. The hsps or a closely related/similar protein are present in all organisms at normal temperatures and have been shown to have key functions in 20 normal cell metabolism. Lindquist, S. and E.A. Craig, Ann. Rev. Genet., 22:631-677 (1988). Because the stress response is common to prokaryotes and eukaryotes and stress proteins are among the most highly conserved in sequence, it is reasonable to expect that an antigen from 25 one pathogen could immunize against another pathogen. Exposure to foreign stress proteins early in life might, in fact, induce a degree a immunity to a variety of infectious agents. If so, this could provide an explanation for the observation that, for many pathogens, 30 only a fraction of infected individuals actually acquire clinical disease.

The following is a description of the relationship which has been observed between stress proteins and the immune response to mycobacterial infection; of the observation and supporting information that stress

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proteins are immune targets in many infections by
pathogens; of the role of stress proteins as immune
targets in transformed cells; of recognition of the fact
that the immune response to conserved stress protein

determinants may play an important role in autoimmune
pathology in rheumatoid arthritis, as well as in adjuvant
arthritis; and of the role of stress proteins in immune
surveillance, as well as a model proposed for immune
surveillance in which self-reactive T cells provide a

first line of defense against infection and cell
transformation.

# Mycobacterial Stress Proteins are Targets of the Immune Response

An intriguing relationship between stress proteins
and the immune response to mycobacterial infection has
been observed. A more detailed examination of stress
protein determinants and immune response mechanisms is
essential to understanding the relationship among stress
proteins, infection, and immunity.

In view of the involvement of proteins of M. tuberculosis and M. leprae in humoral and cell-mediated immune responses and to establish the functions of these proteins in the mycobacterial cell, the DNA encoding several of the M. tuberculosis and M. leprae antigens have been sequenced. The results, discussed in Example 1, demonstrate that many of these mycobacterial protein antigens exhibit striking sequence similarity to known stress-induced proteins. Three of the M. leprae and two of the M. tuberculosis protein antigens studied have been shown to exhibit striking sequence similarity to known stress proteins. For reasons discussed in Example 1, it is concluded that two of the M. leprae and two of the M. tuberculosis antigens are homologues of the E. coli DnaK and GroEL proteins.

In mice, immunization with mycobacterial lysates elicits antibody responses to at least six M. tuberculosis protein antigens and a similar number of M. leprae protein antigens. Monoclonal antibodies specific for these proteins have been used to isolate clones from Agtll DNA expression libraries of M. tuberculosis and M. leprae. The sequence of the DNA clones revealed that mycobacterial hsp70 (alias 70 kDa antigen) and hsp60 (alias 65 kDa antigen, Groel) were the major targets of the murine antibody response to both M. tuberculosis and M. leprae. Two additional hsp, an 18 kDa member of the small hsp family and a 12 kDa homologue of groel, were found among the M. leprae and M. tuberculosis antigens. Young, D.B., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 85:4267-4270 (1988); Shinnick, T.M., et al., Nuc. Acids Res., 17:1254 (1989).

The mycobacterial stress proteins are among the immunodominant targets of both murine antibody and T cell responses. In one study which summarized results obtained from 10 laboratories, a collection of 24 murine monoclonal antibodies recognized 6 M. leprae proteins; 7 of these antibodies are directed against 6 different determinants in the M. leprae hsp60. Engers, H.D., et al., Infect. Immun., 48:603-605 (1985); Mehra, V., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 83:7013-7017 (1986). In a similar study, 3 of 33 monoclonal antibodies raised against  $\underline{M}$ . tuberculosis recognized the M. tuberculosis hsp60 protein. Engers, H.D., et al., Infect. Immun., 51:718-720 (1986). Finally, limiting dilution analysis indicates that 20% of the mycobacterial-reactive CD4+ T lymphocytes in mice 30 immunized with M. tuberculosis recognize this antigen. Kaufmann, S.H., et al., Eur. J. Immunol., 17:351-357

(1987).

Although a rigorous quantitative analysis of the human immune response to mycobacterial stress proteins has not yet been reported, mycobacterial stress proteins are

recognized by human antibodies and T lymphocytes and the evidence suggests that these proteins are among the major targets of the human cell mediated immune response.

Emmrich. F., et al., J. Exp. Med., 163:1024-1029 (1985);

5 Mustafa, A.S., et al., Nature (London). 319:63-66 (1986);

Oftung, F., et al., J. Immunol., 138:927-931 (1987); Lamb, J.R., et al., EMBO J., 6:1245-1249 (1987). T lymphocytes from patients with mycobacterial infection or from volunteers immunized with mycobacteria have been cloned and tested for their ability to recognize the mycobacterial stress proteins. In each of these studies, some fraction of the human T cell clones were shown to recognize one or more of the mycobacterial stress proteins.

# 15 <u>Stress Proteins are Immune Targets in Infections by</u> Pathogens

The observation that stress proteins are important targets of the immune response to mycobacterial infection and the knowledge that the major stress proteins are 20 conserved and abundant in other organisms suggested that stress proteins are likely to be immune targets in many infections by pathogens. Indeed, that is now clearly the case. Antigens from a wide variety of infectious agents have been identified as members of stress protein families. The major stress protein antigen recognized by antibodies in bacterial infections is hsp60. "Common antigen", an immunodominant protein antigen long known to be shared by most bacterial species, turns out to be hsp60. Shinnick, T.M., et al., Infect. Immun., 56:446 (1988); Thole, J.E.R., et al., Microbial Pathogenesis,  $\underline{4}$ :71-83 (1988). Stress proteins have also been identified as immune targets in most major human parasite infections. Bianco, A.E., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 83:8713 (1986); Nene, V., et al., Mol. Biochem. Parasitol., 21:179

(1986); Ardeshir, F., et al., EMBO J., 6:493 (1987);
Hedstrom, R., et al., J. Exp. Med., 165:1430 (1987);
Selkirk, M.E., et al., J. Cell Biochem., 12D:290 (1988),
Engman, D.M., et al., J. Cell Biochem., 12D: Supplement,

290 (1988); Smith, D.F., et al., J. Cell Biochem., 12D:296
(1988). Antibodies to hsp70 have been identified in the sera of patients suffering from malaria, trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and filariasis. Hsp90 is also a target of antibodies in trypanosomiasis and a member of the small hsp family is recognized in some patients with schistosomiasis.

Proteins homologous to stress proteins have also been identified in viruses. Recently, a protein encoded by the RNA genome of the Beet Yellows Closterovirus, a plant 15 virus, has been shown to be homologous to hsp70. Agranovsky, A.A., et al., J. Mol. Biol., 217: 603-610 (1991). In addition, stress protein induction occurs in eukaryotic cells following infection by diverse viruses in vitro. Collins, P.L., and Hightower, L.E., J. Virol., 44:703-707 (1982); Nevins, J.R., Cell, 29:913-939 (1982); Garry, R.F. et al., Virology, 129:391-332 (1988); Khandjian, E.W. and Turler, H., Mol. Cell Biol., 3:1-8 (1983); LaThangue, N.B., et al., EMBO J., 3:267-277 (1984); Jindal, S. and Young, R., <u>J. Viral</u>, <u>66:</u>5357-5362 25 (1992). CTL that recognize these neo-antigens could limit the spread of virus by killing infected cells, possibly before substantial amounts of mature virus are assembled, and by secreting the lymphokine  $\gamma$ -interferon. Pestka, S., in: Methods Enzymol., Interferons, Part A., Vol. 79 30 Academic Press, New York, pp. 667 (1981). Evidence consistent with this idea is emerging. Koga et al., (1989) have shown that infection of primary murine macrophages with CMV rendered them susceptible as targets for MHC-I restricted CD8 CTL specific for linear epitopes 35 of M. tuberculosis hsp60. Koga, T., et al. (1989).

Although the epitope recognized by these CTL on infected macrophages was not defined, it is tempting to speculate that a cross-reactivity with self hsp60 epitopes is being observed. Indeed, the same groups showed that a homologous hsp60 is constitutively present in macrophages and is upregulated by  $\gamma$ -interferon stimulation.

Stress Proteins as Immune Targets in Transformed Cells Stress proteins appear to be produced at high levels in at least some transformed cells. Bensaude, O. and 10 Morange, M., EMBO J., 2: 173-177 (1983). An 86 kDA murine tumor antigen has been found to be homologous to representatives of the hsp90 family in yeast and Drosophila. Ullrich, S.J., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 83: 3121-3125 (1986). Immunization of mice with the 15 purified protein led to inhibition of tumor growth in 95% of experimental animals that had been seeded with cultured tumor cells. All of the protected mice had high titers of anti-hsp90 serum antibody which was able to precipitate murine hsp90 from lysates of heat shocked mouse embryo 20 cells. Again, a role for autoreactive lymphocytes is implied, since T cells capable of recognizing autologous cells stressed by transformation could help eliminate nascent tumor cells.

## Stress Proteins and Autoimmune Processes

25 Rheumatoid arthritis is characterized by a chronic proliferative and inflammatory reaction in synovial membranes which is thought to involve autoimmune processes. Rat adjuvant arthritis resembles human rheumatoid arthritis in many respects, and has been used as an experimental animal model for human disease.

Pearson, C.M., Arthritis Rheum., 7:80-86 (1964). Adjuvant arthritis can be induced in rats with a single intradermal injection of killed M. tuberculosis in complete Freund's

adjuvant. An autoimmune process involving T lymphocytes appears to be responsible for the generation of the disease. Holoshitz, J., et al., Science, 219:56-58 (1983). T cell lines isolated from the draining lymph nodes of arthritic rats and propagated in vitro by stimulation with M. tuberculosis-pulsed syngeneic antigen presenting cells can cause a transient form of the disease when transferred to irradiated rats. Since care was taken in these experiments to exclude the transfer of contaminating M. tuberculosis, this result strongly suggests that the clinical effects of the disease are a consequence of an autoimmune reaction in which the autoantigen is shared with M. tuberculosis.

The rat and M. tuberculosis antigens recognized by 15 the arthritogenic T cells have been sought for a number of years. A number of different proteins present in synovial membranes have been proposed to be the cross-reactive rat antigen, but were later discounted as procedures for the purification of these proteins improved. van Eden, W., et 20 al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 82:5117-5120 (1985); Holoshitz, J., et al., Science, 219:56-58 (1983). The M. tuberculosis antigen recognized by the arthritogenic T cells was recently shown to be a 65 kDa protein (van Eden, W., et al., Nature, 331:171 (1988), which has now been shown to be hsp60 (see the Example 1). Using a combination of truncated recombinant 65 kDa proteins and peptides, a nine amino acid epitope of hsp60 has been identified as the minimum stimulatory sequence for arthritogenic T cell clones in proliferation assays. that it is clear that some arthritogenic T cells recognize the mycobacterial hsp60, it is quite possible that the rat autoantigen is also hsp60.

The results obtained in the adjuvant arthritis model led investigators to determine whether T lymphocytes from human rheumatoid arthritis patients also recognize

mycobacterial antigens. These investigators have found not only that patients with rheumatoid arthritis have T cells that recognize M. tuberculosis antigens, but that these T cells have diverse phenotypes. Substantial 5 proliferative responses to mycobacterial extracts are observed with uncloned T cells (predominantly CD4\*) from both synovial infiltrates and peripheral blood, although responses are generally greater in synovial infiltrates. Abrahamson, T.G., et al., Scand. J. Immunol., 7:81-90 (1978); Holoshitz, J., et al., Lancet ii, 305-306 (1986). 10 Holoshitz et al. found that 4 of 5 T cell clones isolated from human rheumatoid synovia which respond to  $\underline{M}$ . tuberculosis antigens were CD4  $^{\circ}$  CD8  $^{\circ}$  cells with  $\gamma/\delta$  T cell receptors. Holoshitz, J., et al., Nature, 339:226-229 15 (1989). This observation is interesting because  $\gamma/\delta$  T cells have yet to be assigned a role in immunity. One of the  $\gamma/\delta$  clones was tested for its ability to respond to purified mycobacterial hsp60 and was found to be positive in proliferation assays. Due to the conserved nature of 20 stress proteins, these T cells have the potential for autoreactivity. Lamb and coworkers have shown that polyclonal T cells from synovial infiltrates recognize both mycobacterial hsp60 and hsp70. Lamb, J.R., et al., Intl. Immunol., in press (1989). The population of T 25 cells that recognize the mycobacterial stress proteins were shown to respond to E. coli hsp60 and hsp70 and, most interestingly, human hsp70 purified from heat shocked macrophages. Thus, immune responses to conserved stress protein determinants, perhaps initiated by bacterial infection (not necessarily by mycobacteria), may play an important role in autoimmune pathology in rheumatoid arthritis, as well as in adjuvant arthritis.

## Stress Proteins and Immune Surveillance

## Stress Proteins and Immune Surveillance

A variety of different T cell types has now been shown to recognize highly conserved stress protein determinants. The ability of cells to respond to stress 5 by increasing the levels of the highly conserved stress proteins; the presence of T cells of diverse phenotypes in healthy individuals that are capable of recognizing self stress protein determinants; and observations that stress responses are induced by pathogenic infections and by cell 10 transformation, all suggest a model of immune surveillance in which self-reactive T cells provide a first line of defense against infection and transformation by recognizing and helping to eliminate stressed autologous cells, as well as cells infected with intracellular 15 pathogens. The pool of lymphocytes that recognize conserved stress protein determinants might be induced during establishment of natural microbial flora on the skin and in the gut, and maintained by frequent stimulation by pathogens, such as bacteria and viruses, as well as other stressful stimuli encountered during a normal lifetime. This model is attractive because it provides a way in which the immune system could exploit the existence of conserved epitopes in stress proteins to respond immediately to antigenically diverse pathogens and cellular changes, producing an initial defense that need not await the development of immunity to novel antigens.

The lymphocytes which recognize conserved stress protein determinants must be capable of discriminating between normal and stressed cells. Since many stress proteins are constitutively expressed in normal cells, although at lower levels than in stressed cells, the potential for autoreactivity is ever-present. Normal cells may escape destruction by expressing only substimulatory levels of stress protein determinants on their surfaces. In addition, stress proteins may only be

processed and presented during stress, and it may be relevant that many stress proteins have altered intracellular locations during stress. Finally, immune regulatory networks may prevent activation of autoreactive T cells under normal conditions. The regulatory constraints required by this system might occasionally break down, perhaps during stress caused by bacterial or viral infections, leading to autoimmune disease.

Rheumatoid arthritis may be such a disease.

## 10 Modulation of Immune Response

The precise relationship between stress proteins and the host immune response to infection is as yet undefined. When cells are subjected to a variety of stresses, they respond by selectively increasing the synthesis of a 15 limited set of stress proteins. Some stress proteins, including the products of DnaK and GroEL, are major constituents of the cell under normal growth conditions and are induced to even higher levels during stress. Lindquist, S., <u>Annu. Rev. Biochem.</u> 55: 1151-1191 (1986); 20 Neidhardt, F.C. and R.A. VanBogelen, In Escherichia coli and Salmonella Typhimurium, Cellular and Molecular Biology, (eds. Neidhardt, F.C., Ingraham, J.L. Low, K.B. Magasanik, B. Schaechter, M. and Umbarger, H.E.) Am. Soc. Microbiol., Washington, D.C., pp. 1134-1345 (1987). 25 has now been demonstrated that stress-related proteins are targets of the immune response. Young, D. et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 85:4267-4270 (1988). It is reasonable to expect that immunodominant antigens would be found among such abundant proteins, as has now been shown

According to the method of the present invention, it is possible to modulate the immune response in an individual, such as a human, other mammal or other vertebrate, by altering the individual's response to

stress proteins. In particular, it is possible to enhance or induce an individual's response to a pathogen (e.g., bacteria, virus, parasites, or other organism or agent, such as toxins, toxoids) or to cancer cells or enhance or 5 induce an upregulation of an individual's immune status (such as in an immune compromised individual or HIVinfected individual); and to decrease an individual's autoimmune response, such as occurs in some forms of In addition, administration of a stress arthritis. 10 protein using the method of the present invention provides protection against subsequent infection by a pathogen. As demonstrated herein, stress proteins contain regions of highly conserved amino acid sequences and have been shown to be major immunodominant antigens in bacterial and other 15 infections. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect stress proteins can be used to elicit strong immune responses against a variety of pathogens. The stress protein administered to induce or enhance an immune response to pathogens can be the stress protein of the pathogen 20 against which an immune response is desired or other stress protein, a portion of that protein of sufficient size to stimulate the desired immune response or a protein or amino acid sequence which is the functional equivalent of the stress protein in that it is sufficiently 25 homologous in amino acid sequence to that of the stress protein to be capable of eliciting the desired response (an immune response substantially similar to that which occurs in response to the stress protein) in the individual to whom it is administered. The term 30 "sufficiently homologous in amino acid sequence to that of the stress protein" means that the amino acid sequence of the protein or polypeptide will generally show at least 40% identity with the stress protein amino acid sequence; in some cases, the amino acid sequence of a functional

equivalent exhibits approximately 50% identity with the amino acid sequence of the stress protein.

Any stress-induced proteins or their functional equivalents can be used by the present invention to enhance or induce an immune response in an individual (e.g. a human, other mammal or vertebrate), against an infection by a pathogen, for immunotherapy against cancer cells, for generally upregulating an individual's immune status and for use in inducing immune tolerance in an individual or animal.

10 The stress proteins of the present invention can be administered in a variety of ways to modulate the immune response of an individual (e.g., a human, other mammal or other vertebrate). In one embodiment, the stress protein 15 is administered as a vaccine which is comprised of the stress protein or a portion of the stress protein which is of sufficient size to stimulate the desired immune response. In this embodiment, the vaccine can be a "specific vaccine" which contains a specific stress 20 protein of a particular pathogen against which an immune response is desired, such as a bacterial stress protein. In this case, since the pathogen's stress proteins are distinguishable from those of the host, it is possible to induce an immunoprophylactic response specific to the 25 pathogen's stress proteins. Blander, S.J., et al., J. Clin. Invest., 91:717-723 (1993). This can be carried out by administering a vaccine which includes all or a portion (e.g., sufficient amino acid sequence to have the desired stimulatory effect on immune response) of the pathogen's 30 stress protein or of another protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently similar to that of the stress protein sequence to stimulate the immune response to the pathogen's stress protein. Alternatively, in the case of a pathogen which does not contain stress proteins, (e.g. some viruses) or in the condition of neoplasia, stress

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proteins or highly conserved stress protein determinants, such as those shown to be recognized by a variety of T cells, can be administered as a type of "general" vaccine to achieve an upregulation of the immune response.

5 Administration of such a vaccine will enhance the existing immune surveillance system. For instance, a vaccine which includes a bacterial, or other stress protein can be administered to enhance the immune system which will result in an immune response against a pathogen which does not contain stress proteins. Alternatively, this type of "general" vaccine can be used to enhance an individual's immune response against cancer or to generally upregulate an individual's immune status, such as in an immune compromised individual (e.g., an individual undergoing 15 chemotherapy or an HIV-infected individual). In either case of this embodiment (specific or general vaccine), the immune response to the stress protein sequence will be increased and effects of the pathogen, disease condition or immune impairment will be reduced (decreased, prevented 20 or eliminated).

In another embodiment, stress proteins can be used to enhance immune surveillance by applying local heat or any other substances or changes in condition which induce the stress response in the individual being treated. (This can also be employed in conjunction with the specific vaccine, described previously, administered to enhance an immune response to a stress protein-containing pathogen or in conjunction with the general vaccine, described above, administered to enhance the immune response against a pathogen which does not contain its own stress proteins, cancer, or to upregulate the immune status of an individual). For example, it is known that increased levels of stress proteins are produced in many types of cancer cells. Therefore, enhancement of the immune surveillance system, using this embodiment of the present

invention as described, can be used to facilitate destruction and/or to prevent progression or establishment of cancer cells.

The method of the present invention can also be used 5 to modify or modulate an individual's response to his or her own cells (e.g., as in autoimmune diseases). There are at least two ways in which the present invention can be used immunotherapeutically. First, stress proteins, such as heat shock proteins (e.g., hsp 70 and hsp60), are 10 known to be involved in autoimmune disease. It is, thus, possible to turn down an individual's immune response, resulting in the individual becoming more tolerant of the protein. Second, because it is known that under some circumstances, one component of the immune response in 15 certain autoimmune diseases can be to stress proteins, it is possible to selectively inhibit or interfere with the ability of immune cells which normally interact with such proteins to do so. This can be done, for example, by administering monoclonal antibodies that bind to specific 20 T cell receptors and delete or disable such cells. Alternatively, rather than knocking out immune cells, the stress response in cells can be turned down by administering a drug capable of reducing a cell's ability to undergo the stress response. For example, a drug 25 targeted to or specific for heat shock transcription factor, which is needed to stimulate heat shock genes, can be administered. The transcription factor is rendered nonfunctional or subfunctional and, as a result, cells' ability to undergo the stress response is also lessened.

In another embodiment of the present invention, the stress protein is administered as a vaccine which is comprised of two moieties: a stress protein and another substance (referred to as an antigen, e.g. protein, peptide, carbohydrate, lipid, organic molecule) against which an immune response is desired. The two moieties are

conjugated or joined to form a single unit. Conjugation can be achieved by chemical means (e.g. through a covalent bond between the stress protein and the second moiety) or, as demonstrated in Example 2, by recombinant techniques.

- If recombinant techniques are used to produce the conjugate, the result is a recombinant fusion protein which includes the stress protein and the antigen in a single molecule. This makes it possible to produce and purifiy a single recombinant molecule in the vaccine
- production process. In this embodiment, the stress protein can be seen to act as an adjuvant-free carrier, and it stimulates strong humoral and T cell responses to the substance to which the stress protein is fused. The stress protein can be conjugated to any substance against
- which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered. The substance includes but is not limited to proteins, peptides, oligosaccharides, lipids, carbohydrates, organic molecules
- or a combination thereof. Barrios, C. et al., Eur. J.

  Immun., 22:1365-1372 (1992). Recent evidence
  demonstrating the effectiveness of such a vaccine
  indicates that mycobacterial hsp70 proteins when
  conjugated to other proteins act as adjuvant-free
- 25 carriers. Lussow, A.R., et al., Eur. J. Immun., 21:2297-2302 (1991). The humoral immune response to some peptides conjugated to mycobacterial hsp70 administered without any adjuvant was very similar to the antibody response to the same peptides administered in Freund's complete adjuvant.
- Dussow, A.R., et al., Eur. J. Immun., 21:2297-2302 (1991).

  Barrios, C. et al., Eur. J. Immun., 22:1365-1372 (1992).

  The present invention also relates to compositions comprising a stress protein joined to another component, such as a fusion protein in which a stress protein is
- 35 fused to an antigen.

As demonstrated in Example 3, the HIV p24 gag gene was subcloned into the stress protein fusion vector pKS70 (Figure 6), containing the T7 RNA polymerase promoter, a polylinker and the mycobacterial tuberculosis hsp70 gene.

5 The resulting vector pKS72 (Figure 6) was used to produce the p24-hsp70 fusion protein in E. coli. Adjuvant-free, purified p24-hsp70 fusion protein was injected into Balb/c mice and as shown in Figure 7, the anti-p24 antibody titer was 2.7 orders of magnitude higher in mice injected with the p24-hsp70 fusion protein than in mice injected with p24 alone or hsp70 alone. Mice injected with p24 and the adjuvant, alum, also produced an antibody response to p24. Finally, a demonstrable T cell response was seen in mice injected with the p24-hsp70 fusion protein and in mice injected with p24 alone.

In another embodiment of the present invention, the stress protein or a portion of the stress protein which is of sufficient size to stimulate an immune response or an equivalent, is administered as an adjuvant, with another substance (referred to as an antigen) against whi'ch an immune response is desired. The stress protein can be used as an adjuvant with any substance or antigen against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered. The substance includes proteins, peptides, oligosaccharides, lipids, carbohydrates, organic molecules or a combination thereof.

The stress protein, stress protein portion, stress protein functional equivalent and the substance to which the stress protein is fused or conjugated present in the vaccine can be produced or obtained using known techniques. For example, the stress protein or stress protein portion can be obtained (isolated) from a source in which it occurs in nature, can be produced by cloning and expressing a gene encoding the desired stress protein

or stress protein portion or can be synthesized chemically or mechanically.

An effective dosage of the stress proteins of the present invention as vaccines or adjuvants, to elicit 5 specific cellular and humoral immunity to stress proteins, or to substances conjugated to the stress proteins, such as proteins or oligosaccharides, is in the range of 0.1 to 1000 ug hsp per injection, depending on the individual to whom the stress protein is being administered. Lussow, 10 A.R., et al., Eur. J. Immun., 21:2297-2302 (1991). Barrios, C. et al., Eur. J. Immun., 22:1365-1372 (1992). The appropriate dosage of the stress protein for each individual will be determined by taking into consideration, for example, the particular stress protein 15 being administered, the type of individual to whom the stress protein is being administered, the age and size of the individual, the condition being treated or prevented and the severity of the condition. Those skilled in the art will be able to determine using no more than routine 20 experimentation, the appropriate dosage to administer to an individual.

Various delivery systems can be used to administer an effective dose of the vaccine of the present invention.

Methods of introduction include, for example, intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, intranasal, epidural and oral routes. Any other convenient route of administration can be used (infusion of a bolus injection, infusion of multiple injections over time, absorption through epithelial or mucocutaneous linings such as, oral mucosa, rectal and intestinal mucosa) or a series of injections over time.

The present invention is further illustrated by the following exemplification, which is not intended to be limiting in any way.

#### EXEMPLIFICATION

## EXAMPLE 1 Isolation and Characterization of Mycobacterial Stress Protein Antigens

Recombinant DNA Clones. The isolation and

characterization of M. tuberculosis and M. leprae \( \lambda \)gtll

genomic DNA clones with murine monoclonal antibodies have
been described. Husson, R.N. and Young, R.A., Proc. Natl.

Acad. Sci., USA 84: 1679-1683 (1987); Young, R.A., et al.,

Nature (London) 316: 450-452 (1985). DNA was isolated

from these clones and was manipulated by standard

procedures. Davis, R.W., Advanced Bacterial Genetics: A

Manual for Genetic Engineering (Cold Spring Harbor Lab.,

Cold Spring Harbor, NY), (1980).

DNA Sequence Analysis. DNA was subcloned into vector

M13mp18 or M13mp19 (New England Biolabs), as suggested by
the supplier. Dideoxynucleotide chain-termination
reactions and gel electrophoresis of the sequenced
produced were as described. Davis, R.W., Advanced
Bacterial Genetics: A Manual for Genetic Engineering (Cold
Spring Harbor Lab., Cold Spring Harbor, NY), (1980). DNA
sequences were determined for both strands of DNA.
Computer analysis of sequences with UWGCG programs was as
described by Devereux, J., et al., Nucleic Acids Res., 12:
387-395 (1984).

Immunoblot Analysis. Escherichia coil strain TG1 was transformed with the following plasmids by standard procedures (Maniatis, T., et al., Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor Lab., Cold Spring Harbor, NY) (1982), with selection for ampicillin resistance: pND5, a derivative of pBR325 containing the E. coli Groel genes (Jenkins, A.J., et al., Mol. Gen. Genet., 202: 446-454 (1986); pUC8 (Vic, J., Gene, 19: 259-268 (1982); pUC8 with insert DNA for Agtll clone Y3178 (M.

leprae 65-kDa antigen, Young, R.A., et al., Nature,
(London) 316: 450-452 (1985)) ligated in the EcoRI site.

Overnight cultures of <u>E. coli</u> strains in LuriaBertani (LB) medium were centrifuged and resuspended in

isotonic phosphate-buffered saline at a cell density
corresponding to an absorbance of 2 at 600 nm. An equal
volume of sample buffer containing 2% (wt/vol) NaDodSo<sub>4</sub>
was added, and, after heating on a boiling water bath for
2 min, samples were electrophoresed on 12% (wt/vol)

polyacrylamide gels in the presence of NaDodSO<sub>4</sub>. Blots
were prepared by electrophoretic transfer of the proteins
to a nitrocellulose membrane, and binding of monoclonal
antibodies was assayed with a peroxidase-conjugated
secondary antibody as described. Young, D.B., <u>et al.</u>,

Infect. Immun., 55: 1421-1425 (1987).

Six M. tuberculosis and six M. leprae proteins have been implicated in the immune response to the mycobacterial pathogens (Table 1). To obtain clues to the normal cellular function of several of these mycobacterial antigens, DNA clones encoding these proteins, isolated by using monoclonal antibodies to probe lambda gtll libraries (Husson, R.N. and Young, R.A., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 84: 1679-1683 (1987); Young, R.A., et al., Nature, (London) 316: 450-452 (1985)) were subjected to sequence analysis. The sequences elucidated have been submitted to the GenBank sequence database.

The Mycobacterial 71-k Da Antigen. The 71-k Da antigen of M. tuberculosis is recognized by human T cells during infection (Table 1).

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#### TABLE 1

#### MYCOBACTERIAL PROTEIN ANTIGENS

Protein, kDA	Recognized by Human T Cells	Subjected to sequence analysis	Homology with known proteins
M. tuberculosis			
71	+	+	DnaK
65*	-	+	GroEL
38	+	-	-
19	+	+	None
14	+	•	_
12	ND	-	-
M. leprae			
70	ND	+	DnaK
65	+	-	GroEL
36	+	+	-
28	+	_	-
18	+	+	Plant Hsp
12	ND	-	<u> </u>

Mycobacterial protein antigens, their recognition by human T cells, and homology of the deduced mycobacterial protein sequences to known proteins are summarized. ND, not determined; +, yes; -, no

- \* Includes data derived from study of the 65-kDA antigens of M. bovis BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Gurein), which is identical to the M. tuberculosis 65-kDA antigen.
  - + A.S. Mustafa, J.R. Lamb, D. Young and R.A. Young, unpublished data.

The insert DNA of lambdagtll clone Y3271 (Husson, R.N., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci, USA, 84: 1679-1683 (1987), was sequenced to obtain amino acid sequence information for the 71-kDa antigen of M. tuberculosis. 5 This clone produces a beta-galactosidase fusion protein containing the carboxyl-terminal one-third of the 71-kDa antigen exhibiting 40% amino acid sequence identity with the comparable segment of the  $\underline{dnaK}$  gene product from  $\underline{E}$ . coli (Bardwell, J.C., et al., Proc. Natl. Sci., USA, 81: 10 848-852 (1984)), (Fig. 1). Figure 1A shows the extent of sequence similarity between portions of the mycobacterial and the E. coli 70-k Da polypeptides. Sequences transcriptionally downstream from the mycobacterial 71-k Da gene predict a 356-amino acid protein homologous to the 15 E. coli dnaJ gene product (unpublished data), indicating that the E. coli dnaK-dnaJ operon structure is conserved in M. tuberculosis and consistent with the conclusion that the mycobacterial 71-kDa antigen is a homologue of the  $\underline{E}$ . coli dnaK gene product. The product of the dnaK gene is a 20 member of the 70-kDa heat shock protein family that is highly conserved among prokaryotes and eukaryotes (Bardwell, J.C., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 81:

The <u>M. leprae</u> 70-k Da antigen cross-reacts with monoclonal antibodies directed to the <u>M. tuberculosis</u> 70-kDa antigen. <u>M. tuberculosis</u> and <u>M. leprae</u> are both members of the 70-k Da heat shock protein family of stress proteins.

848-852 (1984); Lindquist, S., Annu. Rev. Biochem., 55:

1151-1191 (1986).

The mycobacterial 65-kDa antigen. The 65-kDa antigens of M. tuberculosis and M. leprae are involved in the human T-cell response to mycobacterial infection (Table 1). Genes encoding these proteins have been isolated (Husson, R.N., and Young, R.A., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 84: 1679-1683 (1987); Young, R.A., et al.,

Nature, (London) 316: 450-452 (1985)) and sequenced (Shinnick, T.M., J. Bacteriol., 169: 1080-1088 (1987); Mehram, V., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA 83: 7013-7017 (1986)), revealing that the amino acid sequences of the 65-kDa antigens of M. tuberculosis (SEQ ID NO: 4) and M. leprae (SEQ ID NO: 3) are 95% identical. These proteins sequences exhibited no significant sequence similarity to proteins in the GenBank database.

observation that some monoclonal antibodies directed against the mycobacterial 65-kDa antigens cross-react with an E. coli protein of 60kDa. E. coli cells transformed with the plasmid pND5 (Sanger, F., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA 74: 5463-5467 (1977), which contains the E. coli gro E genes, had been shown to accumulate large amounts of the 60-kDa protein. A comparison of the mycobacterial 65-kDa protein sequences with those determined for E. coli groEl (C. Woolford, K. Tilly, C. Georgopoulous, and R.H., unpublished data) revealed the extent of the sequence similarity as shown in Figure 1B.

The 60-kDa Gro EL protein is a major stress protein in E. coli. Lindquist, S., Annual. Rev. Biochem., 55: 1151-1191 (1986); Nature, 333: 330-334 (1988). There is some evidence that the mycobacterial 65-kDa proteins accumulate in response to stress: Mycobacterium bovis BCG (bacillus Calmette-Guerin) cultures grown in zinc-deficient medium are substantially enriched in this protein (De Bruyn, J., et al., Infect. Immun. 55: 245-252 (1987)). This infers that the 65-kDa proteins of M. tuberculosis and M. leprae are homologues of the E. coli Gro EL protein.

Other Mycobacterial Antigens. T lymphocytes that respond to the M. tuberculosis 19-kDa antigen and the M. leprae 18-kDa antigen have been observed in humans with tuberculosis and leprosy, respectively (Table 1). DNA

encoding these antigens was sequenced from the λgtll clones Y3148 (Husson, R.N. and Young, R.A., <u>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA</u> 84: 1679-1683 (1987); and Y3179 (Young, R.A., <u>et al.</u>, <u>Nature</u>, (London) 316: 450-452 (1985)), respectively. The <u>M. tuberculosis</u> 19-kDa protein sequence predicted from the DNA exhibited no significant sequence similarity to proteins in the GenBank database.

However, the M. leprae 18-kDa protein sequence was similar to the soybean 17-kDa protein heat shock protein, a protein representation of a major class of plant heat shock proteins (Schoffl, F. and Van Bogelen, R.A., In: Escherichia coli and Salmonella typhimurium, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Am. Soc. Microbiol., Washington, D.C. (1987).

10

# 15 EXAMPLE 2 Construction of Stress Protein-Fusion Vaccines for Use as Adjuvant-Free Carriers in Immunizations

Recombinant Fusion Vectors. A series of stress protein fusion vectors for use in E. coli were constructed and are shown in Figure 5. These vectors contain the T7 RNA polymerase promoter fused to the M. bovis BCG hsp70 gene or the M. bovis BCG hsp60 gene. The vectors also contain a polylinker with multiple cloning sites, permitting incorporation of a gene of interest so that the antigen encoded by that gene is expressed as a fusion protein with the stress protein. A subset of these vectors permit incorporation of the foreign gene with a coding sequence for a C-terminal 6-Histidine "tag" for ease of fusion protein purification. Thus far, recombinant clones have been generated that produce hsp70 proteins fused to HIV gag and HIV pol proteins.

Purification of stress protein fusions. Two strategies have been developed to purify the recombinant fusion proteins. The T7 system usually produces such large amounts of protein that it forms inclusion bodies, permitting purification by centrifugation. The preliminary results indicate that an hsp70-HIV gag fusion protein accounts for about 20% of total <u>E. coli</u> protein in the T7 system. If necessary, other fusion proteins can be purified via the 6-Histidine "tag".

The stress protein fusion vector pKS70 (figure 6), containing the T7 RNA polymerase promoter, a polylinker and the mycobacterial tuberculosis hsp70 gene, was constructed. The HIV p24 gag gene was subcloned into pKS70 using the Ndel and BamHI sites and the resulting pKS72 vector (Figure 6) was used to produce the p24-hsp70

10 EXAMPLE 3 ADJUVANT-FREE CARRIER EFFECT OF HSP70 IN VIVO

fusion protein in *E. coli*. The fusion protein was purified as inclusion bodies and further purified using ATP-agarose chromatography and MonoQ ion exchange

20 chromatography.

The p24-hsp70 protein in phosphate buffered saline (PBS), in the absence of an adjuvant, was injected intraperitoneally into Balb/c mice. As controls, the p24 protein alone in PBS or the hsp70 protein alone in PBS was injected into different groups of mice. Three weeks later, the mice were boosted and finally, three weeks after the boost, the mice were bled. The anti-p24 antibody titer was then determined by ELISA. Mice injected with 25 pmoles of p24-hsp70 had antibody levels 2.7 orders of magnitude higher than mice injected with p24 alone or hsp70 alone (Figure 7). Results of experiments in which mice were injected with p24 and the adjuvant, alum, also showed that there was an antibody response to p24. In addition, mice injected with the p24-hsp70 fusion

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protein and mice injected with p24 alone produced a demonstrable T cell response.

#### <u>Equivalents</u>

Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described specifically herein. Such equivalents are intended to be encompassed in the scope of the following claims.

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#### SEQUENCE LISTING

- (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
  - (i) Applicants: Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and Medical Research Council
  - (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Stress Proteins and Uses Therefore
  - (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 4
  - (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
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    - (C) CITY: Lexington
    - (D) STATE: MA
    - (E) COUNTRY: USA
    - (F) ZIP: 02173
  - (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
    - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
    - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
    - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
    - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
  - (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
    - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
    - (B) FILING DATE:
    - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
  - (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
    - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/073,381
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  - (A) NAME: Granahan, Patricia
  - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 32,227
  - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: WHI88-08AFA2
  - (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
    - (A) TELEPHONE: (617) 861-6240
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:
  - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
    - (A) LENGTH: 575 amino acids
    - (B) TYPE: amino acid
    - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
  - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
  - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

Met Leu Arg Leu Pro Thr Val Phe Arg Gln Met Arg Pro Val Ser Arg 1 5 10 15

Val Leu Ala Pro His Leu Thr Arg Ala Tyr Ala Lys Asp Val Lys Phe 20 25 30

Gly Ala Asp Ala Arg Ala Leu Met Leu Gln Gly Val Asp Leu Leu Ala 35 40 . 45

Asp Ala Val Ala Val Thr Met Gly Pro Lys Gly Arg Thr Val Ile Ile 50 55 60

Glu Gln Ser Trp Gly Ser Pro Lys Val Thr Lys Asp Gly Val Thr Val 65 70 75 80

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Ala	Lys	Ser	Ile	Asp 85	Leu	Lys	Asp	Lys	Tyr 90	Lys	Asn	Ile	Gly	Ala 95	Lys
Leu	Val	Gln	Asp 100	Val	Ala	Asn	Asn	Thr 105	Asn	Glu	Glu	Ala	Gly 110	Asp	Gly
Thr	Thr	Thr 115	Ala	Thr	Val	Leu	Ala 120	Arg	Ser	Ile	Ala	Lys 125	Glu	Gly	Phe
Glu	Lys 130	Ile	Ser	Lys	Gly	Ala 135	Asn	Pro	Val	Glu	Ile 140	Arg	Arg	Gly	Val
Met 145	Leu	Ala	Val	Asp	Ala 150	Val	Ile	Ala	Glu	Leu 155	Lys	Lys	Gln	Ser	Lys 160
Pro	Val	Thr	Thr	Pro 165	Glu	Glu	Ile	Ala	Gln 170	Val	Ala	Thr	Ile	Ser 175	Ala
Asn	Gly	Asp	Lys 180	Glu	Ile	Gly	Asn	Ile 185	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ala	Met 190	Lys	Lys
Val	Gly	Arg 195	Lys	Gly	Val	Ile	Thr 200	Val	Lys	Asp	Gly	Lys 205	Thr	Leu	Asn
_	210				Ile	215	-				220				
Ser 225	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ile	Asn 230	Thr	Ser	Lys	Gly	Gln 235	Lys	Cys	Glu	Phe	Gln 240
Asp	Ala	Tyr	Val	Leu 245	Leu ,	Ser	Glu	Lys	Lys 250	Ile	Ser	Ser	Ile	Gln 255	Ser
Ile	Val	Pro	Ala 260	Leu	Glu	Ile	Ala	Asn 265	Ala	His	Arg	Lys	Pro 270	Leu	Val
Ile	Ile	Ala 275	Glu	Asp	Val	Asp	Gly 280	Glu	Ala	Leu	Ser	Thr 285	Leu	Val	Leu
Asn	Arg 290	Leu	Lys	Val	Gly	Leu 295	Gln	Val	Val	Ala	Val 300	Lys	Ala	Pro	Gly

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Phe 305	Gly	Asp	Asn	Arg	Lys 310	Asn	Gln	Leu	Lys	Asp 315	Met	Ala	Ile	Ala	Thr 320
Gly	Gly	Ala	Val	Phe 325	Gly	Glu	Glu	Gly	Leu 330	Thr	Leu	Asn	Leu	Glu 335	Asp
Val	Gln	Pro	His 340	Asp	Leu	Gly	Lys	Val 345	Gly	Glu	Val	Ile	Val 350	Thr	Lys
Asp	Asp	Ala 355	Met	Leu	Leu	Lys	Gly 360	Lys	Gly	Asp	Lys	Ala 365	Gln	Ile	Glu
Lys	Arg 370	Ile	Gln	Glu	Ile	Ile 375	Glu	Gln	Leu	Asp	Val 380	Thr	Thr	Ser	Glu
Tyr 385	Glu	Lys	Glu	Lys	Leu 390	Asn	Glu	Arg	Leu	Ala 395	Lys	Leu	Ser	Asp	Gly 400
Val	Ala	Val	Leu	Lys 405	Val	Gly	Gly	Thr	Ser 410	Asp	Val	Glu	Val	Asn 415	Glu
Lys	Lys	Asp	Arg 420	Val	Thr	Asp	Ala	Leu 425	Asn	Ala	Thr	Arg	Ala 430	Ala	Val
Glu	Glu	Gly 435	Ile	Val	Leu	Gly	Gly 440	Gly	Cys	Ala	Leu	Leu 445	Arg	Cys	Ile
Pro	Ala 450	Leu	Asp	Ser	Leu	Thr 455	Pro	Ala	Asn	Glu	Asp 460	Gln	Lys	Ile	Gly
Ile 465	Glu	Ile	Ile	Lys	Arg 470	Thr	Leu	Lys	Ile	Pro 475	Ala	Met	Thr	Ile	Ala 480
Lys	Asn	Ala	Gly	Val 485	Glu	Gly	Ser	Leu	Ile 490	Val	Glu	Lys	Ile	Met 495	Gln
Ser	Ser	Ser	Glu 500	Val	Gly	Tyr	Asp	Ala 505	Met	Ala	Gly	Asp	Phe 510	Val	Asn
Met	Val	Glu 515	Lys	Gly	Ile	Ile	Asp 520	Pro	Thr	Lys	Val	Val 525	Arg	Thr	Ala

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Leu Leu Asp Ala Ala Gly Val Ala Ser Leu Leu Thr Thr Ala Glu Val
530 535 540

Val Val Thr Glu Ile Pro Lys Glu Glu Lys Asp Pro Gly Met Gly Ala 545 550 555 560

Met Gly Gly Met Gly Gly Xaa Xaa Gly Met Gly Gly Gly Met Phe
565 570 575

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 575 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Xaa Met Ala Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ala Lys Asp Val Lys Phe 20 25 30

Gly Asn Asp Ala Arg Val Lys Met Leu Arg Gly Val Asn Val Leu Ala
35 40 45

Asp Ala Val Lys Val Thr Leu Gly Pro Lys Gly Arg Asn Val Val Leu 50 55 60

Asp Lys Ser Phe Gly Ala Pro Thr Ile Thr Lys Asp Gly Val Ser Val 65 70 75 80

Ala Arg Glu Ile Glu Pro Glu Asp Lys Phe Glu Asn Met Gly Ala Gln 85 90 95

Met	Val	Lys	Glu 100	Val	Ala	Ser	Lys	Ala 105	Asn	Asp	Ala	Ala	Gly 110	Asp	Gly
Thr	Thr	Thr 115	Ala	Thr	Val	Leu	Ala 120	Gln	Ala	Ile	Ile	Thr 125	Glu	Gly	Leu
Lys	Ala 130	Val	Ala	Ala	Gly	Met 135	Asn	Pro	Met	Asp	Leu 140	Lys	Arg	Gly	Ile
Asp 145	Lys	Ala	Val	Thr	Ala 150	Ala	Val	Glu	Glu	Leu 155	Lys	Ala	Leu	Ser	Val 160
Pro	Cys	Ser	Asp	Ser 165	Lys	Ala	Ile	Ala	Gln 170	Val	Gly	Thr	Ile	Ser 175	Ala
Asn	Ser	Asp	Glu 180	Thr	Val	Gly	Lys	Leu 185	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ala	Met 190	Asp	Lys
Val	Gly	Lys 195	Glu	Gly	Val	Ile	Thr 200	Val	Glu	Asp	Gly	Thr 205	Gly	Leu	Gln
Asp	Glu 210	Leu	Asp	Val	Val	Glu 215	Gly	Met	Gln	Phe	Asp 220	Arg	Gly	Tyr	Leu
Ser 225	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Ile	Asn 230	Lys	Pro	Glu	Thr	Gly 235	Ala	Val	Glu	Leu	Glu 240
Ser	Pro	Phe	Ile	Leu 245	Leu	Ala	Asp	Lys	Lys 250	Ile	Ser	Asn	Ile	Arg 255	Glu
Met	Leu	Pro	Val 260	Leu	Glu	Ala	Val	Ala 265	Lys	Ala	Gly	Lys	Pro 270	Leu	Leu
Ile	Ile	Ala 275	Glu	Asp	Val	Glu	Gly 280	Glu	Ala	Leu	Ala	Thr 285	Ala	Val	Val
Asn	Thr 290	Ile	Arg	Gly	Ile	Val 295	Lys	Val	Ala	Ala	Val 300	Lys	Ala	Pro	Gly

Phe 305	Gly	Asp	Arg	Arg	Lys 310	Ala	Met	Leu	Gln	Asp 315	Ile	Ala	Thr	Leu	Thr 320
Gly	Gly	Thr	Val	Ile 325	Ser	Glu	Glu	Xaa	Ile 330	Gly	Met	Glu	Leu	Glu 335	Lys
Ala	Thr	Leu	Glu 340	Asp	Leu	Gly	Gln	Ala 345	Lys	Arg	Val	Val	Ile 350	Asn	Lys
Asp	Thr	Thr 355	Thr	Ile	Ile	Asp	Gly 360	Val	Gly	Glu	Glu	Ala 365	Ala	Ile	Gln
Gly	Arg 370	Val	Ala	Gln	Ile	Arg 375	Gln	Gln	Ile	Glu	Glu 380	Ala	Thr	Ser	Asp
Tyr 385	Asp	Arg	Glu	Lys	Leu 390	Gln	Glu	Arg	Val	Ala 395	Lys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Gly 400
Val	Ala	Val	Ile	Lys 405	Val	Gly	Ala	Ala	Thr 410	Glu	Val	Glu	Met	Lys 415	Glu
Lys	Lys		Arg 420	Val	Glu	Asp	Ala	Leu 425	His	Ala	Thr	Arg	Ala 430	Ala	Val
Glu	Glu	Gly 435	Val	Val	Ala	Gly	Gly 440	Gly	Val	Ala	Leu	Ile 445	Arg	Val	Ala
Ser	Lys 450	Leu	Ala	Asp	Leu	Arg 455	Gly	Gln	Àsn	Glu	Asp 460	Gln	Asn	Val	Val
Ser 465	Ser	Ser	Leu	Xaa	Arg 470	Ala	Met	Glu	Ala	Pro 475	Leu	Arg	Gln	Ile	Val 480
Leu	Asn	Cys	Gly	Glu 485	Glu	Pro	Ser	Val	Val 490	Ala	Asn	Thr	Val	Lys 495	Gly
Gly	Asp	Gly	Asn 500	Tyr	Gly	Tyr		Ala 505	Ala	Thr	Glu		Tyr 510	Gly	Asn

Met Ile Asp Met Gly Ile Leu Asp Pro Thr Lys Val Thr Arg Ser Ala 515 520 525

Leu Gln Tyr Ala Ala Ser Val Ala Gly Leu Met Ile Thr Thr Glu Cys 530 535 540

Met Val Thr Asp Leu Pro Lys Asn Asp Xaa Ala Ala Asp Leu Gly Ala 545 550 560

Ala Gly Gly Met Gly Gly Met Gly Gly Met Gly Gly Met Xaa 565 570 575

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:
  - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
    - (A) LENGTH: 573 amino acids
    - (B) TYPE: amino acid
    - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
  - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
  - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ala Lys Thr Ile Ala Tyr 20 25 30

Asp Glu Glu Ala Arg Arg Gly Leu Glu Arg Gly Leu Asn Ser Leu Ala 35 40 45

Asp Ala Val Lys Val Thr Leu Gly Pro Lys Gly Arg Asn Val Val Leu 50 55 60

Glu Lys Lys Trp Gly Ala Pro Thr Ile Thr Asn Asp Gly Val Ser Ile 65 70 75 80

							-	41-							
Ala	Lys	Glu	Ile	Glu 85	Leu	Glu	Asp	Pro	Tyr 90	Glu	Lys	Ile	Gly	Ala 95	Gli
Leu	Val	Lys	Glu 100	Val	Ala	Lys	Lys	Thr 105	Asp	Asp	Val	Ala	Gly 110	Asp	Gly
Thr	Thr	Thr 115	Ala	Thr	Val	Leu	Ala 120	Gln	Ala	Leu	Val	Lys 125	Glu	Gly	Let
Arg	Asn 130	Val	Ala	Ala	Gly	Ala 135	Asn	Pro	Leu	Gly	Leu 140	Lys	Arg	Gly	Ile
Glu 145	Lys	Ala	Val	Asp	Lys 150	Val	Thr	Glu	Thr	Leu 155	Leu	Lys	Asp	Ala	Ъуя 160
Glu	Val	Glu	Thr	Lys 165	Glu	Gln	Ile	Ala	Ala 170	Thr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser 175	Ala
Xaa	Gly	Asp	Gln 180	Ser	Ile	Gly	Asp	Leu 185	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ala	Met 190	Asp	Lys
Val	Gly	Asn 195	Glu	Gly	Val	Ile	Thr 200	Val	Glu	Glu	Ser	Asn 205	Thr	Phe	Gly
Leu	Gln 210	Leu	Glu	Leu	Thr	Glu 215	Gly	Met	Arg	Phe	Asp 220	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Ile
Ser 225	Gly	Tyr	Phe	Val	Thr 230	Asp	Ala	Glu	Arg	Gln 235	Glu	Ala	Val	Leu	Glu 240
Glu	Pro	Tyr	Ile	Leu 245		Val	Ser	Ser	Lys 250	Val	Ser	Thr	Val	Lys 255	Asp
Leu	Leu	Pro	Leu 260	Leu	Glu	Lys	Val	Ile 265	Gln	Ala	Gly	Lys	Ser 270	Leu	Leu
Ile	Ile	Ala 275	Glu	Asp	Val	Glu	Gly 280	Glu	Ala	Leu	Ser	Thr 285	Leu	Val	Val
Asn	Lys	Ile	Arg	Gly	Thr	Phe	Lys	Ser	Val	Ala	Val	Lys	Ala	Pro	Gly

295

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Phe 305	Gly	Asp	Arg	Arg	Lys 310	Ala	Met	Leu	Gln	Asp 315		Ala	Ile	Leu	Thr 320
Gly	Ala	Gln	Val	Ile 325	Ser	Glu	Glu	Xaa	Val 330	Gly	Leu	Thr	Leu	Glu 335	Asn
Thr	Asp	Leu	Ser 340	Leu	Leu	Gly	Lys	Ala 345	Arg	Lys	Val	Val	Met 350	Thr	Lys
Asp	Glu	Thr 355	Thr	Ile	Val	Glu	Gly 360	Ala	Gly	Asp	Thr	Asp 365		Ile	Ala
Gly	Arg 370	Val	Ala	Gln	Ile	Arg 375	Thr	Glu	Ile	Glu	Asn 380	Ser	Asp	Ser	Asp
Tyr 385	Asp	Arg	Glu	Lys	Leu 390	Gln	Glu	Arg	Leu	Ala 395	Lys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Gly 400
Val	Ala	Val	Ile	Lys 405	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Thr 410	Glu	Val	Glu	Leu	Lys 415	Glu
Arg	Lys	His	Arg 420	Ile	Glu	Asp	Ala	Val 425	Arg	Asn	Ala	Lys	Ala 430	Ala	Val
Glu	Glu	Gly 435	Ile	Val	Ala	Gly	Gly 440	Gly	Val	Thr	Leu	Leu 445	Gln	Ala	Ala
	Ala 450	Leu	Asp	Lys	Leu	Lys 455	Leu	Thr	Gly	Asp	Glu 460	Ala	Thr	Xaa	Gly
Ala 465	Asn	Ile	Val	Lys	Val 470	Ala	Leu	Glu	Ala	Pro 475	Leu	Lys	Gln	Ile	Ala 480
Phe	Asn	Ser	Gly	Met 485	Glu	Pro	Gly		Val 490	Ala	Glu	Lys	Val	Arg 495	Asn
Leu	Ser	Val	Gly 500	His	Gly	Leu	Asn	Ala 505	Ala	Thr	Gly	Glu	Tyr 510	Glu	Asp
Leu	Leu	Lys 515	Ala	Gly	Val	Ala	Asp 520	Pro	Val	Lys		Thr 525	Arg	Ser	Ala

Leu Gln Asn Ala Ala Ser Ile Ala Gly Leu Phe Thr Thr Xaa Glu Ala 530 535 540

Val Val Ala Asp Lys Pro Glu Lys Thr Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser Asp Pro 545 550 555 560

Thr Gly Gly Met Gly Gly Xaa Met Asp Xaa Xaa Xaa Phe 565 570

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:
  - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
    - (A) LENGTH: 573 amino acids
    - (B) TYPE: amino acid
    - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
  - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
  - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ala Lys Thr Ile Ala Tyr 20 25 30

Asp Glu Glu Ala Arg Arg Gly Leu Glu Arg Gly Leu Asn Ala Leu Ala 35 40 45

Asp Ala Val Lys Val Thr Leu Gly Pro Lys Gly Arg Asn Val Val Leu 50 55 60

Glu Lys Lys Trp Gly Ala Pro Thr Ile Thr Asn Asp Gly Val Ser Ile 65 70 75 80

Ala Lys Glu Ile Glu Leu Glu Asp Pro Tyr Glu Lys Ile Gly Ala Glu 85 90 95

Leu	Val	Lys	Glu 100		Ala	Lys	Lys	Thr 105		Asp	Val	Ala	Gly 110	-	Gly
Thr	Thr	Thr 115	Ala	Thr	Val	Leu	Ala 120	Gln	Ala	Leu	Arg	Lys 125	Glu	Gly	Lei
Arg	Asn 130	Val	Ala	Ala	Gly	Ala 135		Pro	Leu	Gly	Leu 140		Arg	Gly	· Ile
Glu 145	Lys	Ala	Val	Glu	Lys 150	Val	Thr	Glu	Thr	Leu 155	Leu	Lys	Gly	Ala	Lys 160
Glu	Val	Glu	Thr	Lys 165	Glu	Gln	Ile	Ala	Ala 170	Thr	Ala	Ala	Ile	Ser 175	Ala
Xaa	Gly	Asp	Gln 180	Ser	Ile	Gly	Asp	Leu 185	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ala	Met 190	Asp	Lys
Val	Gly	Asn 195	Glu	Gly	Val	Ile	Thr 200	Val	Glu	Glu	Ser	Asn 205	Thr	Phe	Gly
Leu	Gln 210	Leu	Glu	Leu	Thr	Glu 215	Gly	Met	Arg	Phe	Asp 220	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Ile
Ser 225	Gly	Tyr	Phe	Val	Thr 230	Asp	Pro	Glu	Arg	Gln 235	Glu	Ala	Val	Leu	Glu 240
Asp	Pro	Tyr	Ile	Leu 245	Leu	Val	Ser	Ser	Lys 250	Val	Ser	Thr	Val	Lys 255	Asp
Leu	Leu	Pro	Leu 260	Leu	Glu	Lys	Val	Ile 265	Gly	Ala	Gly	Lys	Pro 270	Leu	Leu
Ile	Ile	Ala 275	Glu	Asp	Val	Glu	Gly 280	Glu	Ala	Leu	Ser	Thr 285	Leu	Val	Val
	Lys	Ile	Arg	Gly		Phe	-	Ser	Val	Ala	Val	Lys	Ala	Pro	Gly

Phe 305	Gly	Asp	Arg	Arg	Lys 310	Ala	Met	Leu	Gln	Asp 315	Met	Ala	IIe	ren	320
Gly	Gly	Gln	Val	Ile 325	Ser	Glu	Glu	Xaa	Val 330	Gly	Leu	Thr	Leu	Glu 335	Asn
Ala	Asp	Leu	Ser 340	Leu	Leu	Gly	Lys	Ala 345	Arg	Lys	Val	Val	Val 350	Thr	Lys
Asp	Glu	Thr 355	Thr	Ile	Val	Glu	Gly 360	Ala	Gly	Asp	Thr	Asp 365	Ala	Ile	Ala
Gly	Arg 370	Val	Ala	Gln	Ile	Arg 375	Gln	Glu	Ile	Glu	Asn 380	Ser	Asp	Ser	Asŗ
Tyr 385	Asp	Arg	Glu	Lys	Leu 390	Gln	Glu	Arg	Leu	Ala 395	Lys	Leu	Ala	Gly	Gly 400
Val	Ala	Val	Ile	Lys 405	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala	Thr 410	Glu	Val	Glu	Leu	Lys 415	Glu
Arg	Lys	His	Arg 420	Ile	Glu	Asp	Ala	Val 425	Arg	Asn	Ala	Lys	Ala 430	Ala	Val
Glu	Glu	Gly 435	Ile	Val	Ala	Gly	Gly 440	Gly	Val	Thr	Leu	Leu 445	Gln	Ala	Ala
Pro	Thr 450	Leu	Asp	Glu	Leu	Lys 455	Xaa	Leu	Glu	Gly	Asp 460	Glu	Ala	Thr	Gly
Ala 465	Asn	Ile	Val	Lys	Val 470	Ala ,	Leu	Glu	Ala	Pro 475	Leu	Lys	Gln	Ile	Ala 480
Phe	Asn	Ser	Gly	Leu 485	Glu	Pro	Gly	Val	Val 490	Ala	Glu	Lys	Val	Arg 495	Ası
Leu	Pro	Ala	Gly 500	His	Gly	Leu	Asn	Ala 505		Thr	Gly	Val	Tyr 510	Glu	Ası

Leu Leu Ala Ala Gly Val Ala Asp Pro Val Lys Val Thr Arg Ser Ala 515 520 525

Leu Gln Asn Ala Ala Ser Ile Ala Gly Leu Phe Leu Thr Thr Glu Ala 530 535 540

Val Val Ala Asp Lys Pro Glu Lys Glu Lys Ala Ser Val Pro Gly Xaa 545 550 555 555

Xaa Xaa Xaa Gly Gly Asp Met Gly Gly Met Asp Phe 565 570

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## CLAIMS

- A fusion protein comprising a stress protein fused to a protein against which an immune response is desired.
- 5 2. The fusion protein of Claim 1 wherein the stress protein is a heat shock protein and the protein is a human immunodeficiency viral protein.
  - 3. The fusion protein of Claim 2 wherein the heat shock protein is hsp70 and the human immunodeficiency viral protein is p24 protein.

- 4. A vaccine comprising all or a portion of a stress protein which induces an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein to be capable of inducing an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered.
- 5. A vaccine of Claim 4 in which the stress protein is a mycobacterial stress protein or a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the mycobacterial stress protein to induce an immune response in the individual to whom it is administered.
- 25 6. A vaccine for use in enhancing in an individual the immune response to a pathogen, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein of the pathogen against which the enhanced response is desired.

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- 7. A vaccine of Claim 6 in which the stress protein is selected from the group consisting of: mycobacterial stress proteins, bacterial stress proteins, fungal stress proteins, viral stress proteins and parasitic stress proteins.
- 8. A composition comprising all or a portion of a selected stress protein, for use in producing or enhancing an immune response in an individual, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to elicit the desired immune response.
- 9. A composition comprising a stress protein for use in immunizing an individual against a subsequent infection by a pathogen, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to produce an immune response to the stress protein.
- 10. The composition of Claim 9 wherein the stress protein is a stress protein of the pathogen.
- 11. A composition comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein for use in inducing in an individual immune tolerance against a protein, under conditions appropriate for induction of the desired tolerance.
- 25 12. A composition of Claim 11, wherein the protein is a protein associated with rheumatoid arthritis.
  - 13. A vaccine for use in inducing an immune response in an individual comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an

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amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein conjugated to a substance to which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in an individual.

- 14. A vaccine of Claim 13 in which the stress protein is a mycobacterial stress protein or a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the mycobacterial stress protein to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered.
- 15. A vaccine of Claim 13 in which the substance against which an immune response is desired is selected from the group consisting of: proteins, peptides, oligosaccharides, lipids, carbohydrates, organic molecules and a combination thereof.
- 16. A vaccine for use in inducing an immune response in an individual comprising a recombinant fusion protein which includes all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein fused to a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in an individual.
  - 17. A vaccine of Claim 16 in which the stress protein is a mycobacterial stress protein or a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the mycobacterial stress protein to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered.

- 18. A vaccine of Claim 17 in which the protein is the HIV gag or pol protein.
- 19. A composition for use as an agent to induce immune tolerance, comprising a stress protein conjugated to a substance to which an immune response is desired.

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- 20. A vaccine for use in enhancing in an individual an immune response, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein conjugated to a substance to which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to enhance an immune response in the individual.
- 21. A vaccine of Claim 20 in which the stress protein is selected from the group consisting of: mycobacterial stress proteins, bacterial stress proteins, fungal stress proteins, viral stress proteins and parasitic stress proteins.
- 22. A composition comprising a stress protein for use in producing or enhancing an immune response in an individual, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to elicit the desired immune response, and the stress protein is conjugated to a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to produce or enhance an immune response in the individual.
  - 23. A composition comprising a stress protein for use in immunizing an individual against a subsequent infection by a pathogen, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to produce an immune response sufficient to protect the individual against

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subsequent infection by the pathogen, and the stress protein is conjugated to a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to produce an immune response in the individual.

- 24. A vaccine for use in inducing an immune response in an individual comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein and a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in an individual.
- 25. A vaccine of Claim 24 in which the stress protein is a mycobacterial stress protein or a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the mycobacterial stress protein to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered.
- 20 26. A vaccine of Claim 24 in which the substance against which an immune response is desired is selected from the group consisting of: proteins, peptides, oligosaccharides, lipids, carbohydrates, organic molecules and any combination thereof.
- 25 27. A composition for use as an agent to induce immune tolerance, comprising a stress protein and a substance to which an immune response is desired.
- 28. A vaccine for use in enhancing in an individual an immune response, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein and either a substance to which an

immune response is desired or a portion of the substance sufficient to enhance an immune response in the individual.

- 29. A vaccine of Claim 28 in which the stress protein is selected from the group consisting of: mycobacterial stress proteins, bacterial stress proteins, fungal stress proteins, viral stress proteins and parasitic stress proteins.
- 30. A composition comprising a stress protein and a substance against which an immune response is desired or a portion of the substance sufficient to produce or enhance an immune response in an individual for use in producing or enhancing an immune response in an individual, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to elicit the desired immune response.
- 31. A composition comprising a stress protein and a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to produce or enhance an immune response in the individual for use in immunizing an individual against a subsequent infection by a pathogen, wherein the stress protein is in sufficient quantity to produce an immune response sufficient to protect the individual against subsequent infection by the pathogen.
  - 32. A composition for use as an agent to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid

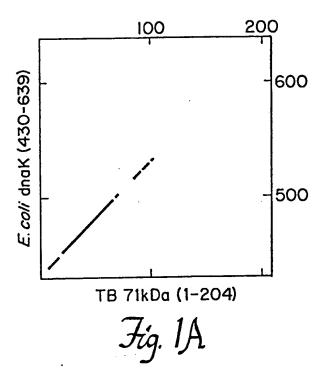
-53-

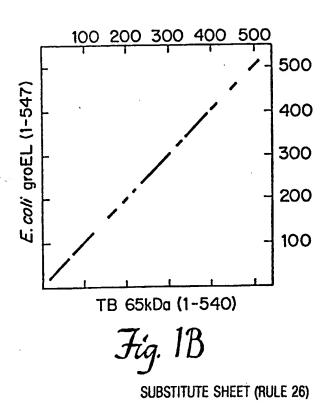
sequence of the stress protein to be capable of inducing an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered.

- 33. A composition for use as an agent to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein conjugated to a substance against which an immune response is desired or to a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in the individual.
- 34. A composition for use as an agent to induce an immune response in an individual to whom it is administered, comprising a recombinant fusion protein which includes a) all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein and b) a substance against which an immune response is desired or a portion of the substance sufficient to induce an immune response in the individual.
  - 35. A composition for use as an agent to induce immune tolerance, comprising a stress protein.
- 25 36. A composition for use in treating an autoimmune disease, comprising all or a portion of a stress protein or all or a portion of a protein having an amino acid sequence sufficiently homologous to the amino acid sequence of the stress protein to induce immune tolerance in an individual to whom it is administered.

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37. A composition of Claim 36 for treating rheumatoid arthritis.





	<b>н</b> •	10	20	30	40	50	09	70
HUMP1	MLRLP	TVFROMRP	SRVLAPHLTR	AYAKDVKFG	ADARALMLQG	MLRLPTVFROMRPVSRVLAPHLTRAYAKDVKFGADARALMLQGVDLLADAVAVTMGPKGRTVI I EQSWGS	TMGPKGRTVI	IEQSWGS
GROEL	1		MA	AKDVKFG	NDARVKMLRG	AKDVKFGNDARVKMLRGVNVLADAVKVTLGFKGRNVVLDKSFGA	TLGPKGRNVV	: : LDKSFGA
	71,	80	06	100	110	120	130	140
HUMP1	PKVTK	DGVTVAKS	DLKDKYKNIG	AKLVQDVANI	NTNEEAGDGT	PKVTKDGVTVAKSIDLKDKYKNIGAKLVQDVANNTNEEAGDGTTTATVLARSIAKEGFEKISKGANPVEI	AKEGFEKI SK(	GANPVEI
GROEL	PTITK	GVSVARE	EPEDKFENMG	AQMVKEVASI	: :::: KANDAAGDGT	: ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	:: Itegikavaag	GMNPMDL
	141	150	160	170	180	. 061	200	210
HUMP1	RRGVM	LAVDAVIAE	LKKQSKPVTT	PEEIAQVATI	SANGDKEIG	RRGVMLAVDAVIAELKKQSKPVTTPEEIAQVATISANGDKEIGNIISDAMKKVGRKGVITVKDGKTLNDE	, Srkgvitvkd(	SKTLNDE
GROEL	KRGIDI	::: KAVTAAVEE	:: :: LKALSVPCSD	SKAIAQVGTI	SANSDETVG	*: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :	SKEGVITVEDO	: :: Grede
	211	220	230	240	250	260	270	280
HUMP1	LEIIEGM	SMKFDRGYI	SPYFINTSKG	QKCEFQDAYV	LLSEKKISS	IKFDRGYISPYFINTSKGQKCEFQDAYVLLSEKKISSIQSIVPALEIANAHRKPLVIIAEDVDG	, NAHRKPLVI	LAEDVDG
GROEL	LDVVEGM	3MQFDRGYL	SPYFINKPET	: Gavelespfi	LLADKKISN	GFDRGYLSPYFINKPETGAVELESPFILLADKKISNIREMLPVLEAVAKAGKPLLIIAEDVEG		::::: [AEDVEG
	281	290	300	310	320	330	.340	350
HUMPI	EALSTI	LVLNRLKVG	LQVVAVKAPG	FGDNRKNQLK	DMAIATGGA	ealstlylnrlkvglqvvavkapgfgdnrknqlkdmalatggavfgeegltlnledvqphdlgkvgevlv	EDVQPHDLGR	KVGEVIV
GROEL	EALAT	. : VVVNTIRGI	VKVAAVKAPG	FGDRRKAMLQ	DIATETGGT	::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	EKATLEDIGG	: AKRVVI
	351	360	370	380	390	400	410	420
HUMP1	TKDDAM	ILLKGKGDK	AQIEKRIQEI	IEQLDVTTSE	YEKEKLNERI	TKDDAMLLKGKGDKAQIEKRIQEIIEQLDVTTSEYEKEKLNERLAKLSDGVAVLKVGGTSDVEVNEKKNR	XVGGTSDVEV	NEKKDR
GROEL	:: NKDTT	: : TIDGVGEE	AAIQGRVAQII	RQQIEEATSD	YDREKLOERV	NKDTTTIDGVGEEAAIQGRVAQIRQQIEEATSDYDREKLQERVAKLAGGVAVIKVGAATEVEMKEKRAB	KVGAATEVEM	

IGURE :

	421	430	440	450	460	470	480	490
HUMP1	VTDAL	NATRAAVEE	GIVLGGGCAL	<b>VTDALNATRAAVEEGIVLGGGCALLRCIPALDSLTPANEDQKIGIEIIKRTLKIPAMTIAKNAGVEGSLI</b>	PANEDOKIC	GIELIKRTLK)	<b>TPAMTIAKNAG</b>	VEGSLI
GROEL	VEDAL	HATRAAVEE	GVVAGGGVAL	: ::: ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	GONEDONV	: VSSSL-RAME?	APLRQIVLNCG	EEPSW
	491	500	510	520	530	540	550	260
HUMP1	VEKIMO	QSSSEVGYD	AMAGDEVNMVI	SSSEVGYDAMAGDFVNMVEKGIIDPTKVVRTALLDAAGVASLLTTAEVVVTEIPKEEKDPGMGA	RTALLDAAC	SVASLLTTAEN	WVTEIPKEEK	DPGMGA
GROEL	ANTVKG	GGDGNYGYN	: !aateeygnmi!	GDGNYGYNAATEEYGNMIDMGILDPTKVTRSALQYAASVAGLMITTECMVTDLPKND-AADLGA	RSALOYAAS	SVAGLMITTEC	:: :: CMVTDLPKND-	AADLGA
	561	570						

FIGURE 2 (continued)

Mean = 3429.48

18.94

Standard deviation =

65.34 SD

25 random runs Alignment score -

Total 276

score = 4667, 5 breaks identities out of 545 possible matches between residues

MGGMGG--GMGGGMF:::::::::

HUMP1

GROEL

FIGURE 3

	н.	) 10	20	30	40	20	09	70
HUMP1 ML65K	MLRI:	PTVFRQMRP	VSRVLAPHLT	RAYAKDVKFG :: AKTIAYD	MLRLPTVFRQMRPVSRVLAPHLTRAYAKDVKFGADARALMLQGVDLLADAVAVTMGPKGRTVIIEQSWGS : :	VDLLADAVAV ::::: LNSLADAVKV	TMGPKGRTVI : ::::: TLGPKGRNVV	IEQSWGS : :: LEKKWGA
	7,	80	06	100	110	120	130	140
HUMP1 ML65K	PKVT : : PTIT	KDGVTVAKS ::: :: NDGVSIAKE	IDLKDKYKNIG : : : : : IELEDPYEKIG	GAKLVQDVAN :: :: :: GAELVKEVAK	PKVTKDGVTVAKSIDLKDKYKNIGAKLVQDVANNTNEEAGDGTTTATVLARSIAKEGFEKISKGANPVEI : ::: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: ::	TTATVLARSI :::::: TTATVLAQAL	AKEGFEKISK ::: VKEGLRNVAA	GANPVEI :::: GANPLGL
	141	150	160	170	180	190	. 200	210
HUMP1 ML65K		MLAVDAVIA ::: EKAVDKVTE	ELKKQSKPVT: : : : TLLKDAKEVE:	TPEEIAQVAT : : : : FKEQIAATAA	RRGVMLAVDAVIAELKKQSKPVTTPEEIAQVATISANGDKEIGNIISDAMKKVGRKGVITVKDGKTLNDE :: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	VIISDAMKKV : :::: OLIAEAMDKV	GRKGVITVKD( : :::: GNEGVITVEE!	GKTLNDE : SNTFGLQ
	211	220	230	240	250	260	270	280
HUMP1 ML65K	LETEL SECTI	EGMKFDRGY. EGMRFDKGY:	ISPYFINTSKC :: :: ISGYFVTDAEF	SQKCEFQDAY SQEAVLEEPY	LEIIEGMKFDRGYISPYFINTSKGQKCEFQDAYVLLSEKKISSIQSIVPALEIANAHRKPLVIIAEDVDG :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	QSIVPALEL : :: TKDLLPLLER	ANAHRKPLVI)   : : : : : VIQAGKSLLI	IAEDVDG
	281	290	300	310	320	330	340	350
HUMP1 ML65K	EALSTL ::::: EALSTL	FLVLNRLKVC :::: FLVVNKIRG1	jlovvavkapg ::::::: [Frsvavkapg	FGDNRKNQL) FGDRRKAML(	FALSTLVLNRLKVGLQVVAVKAPGFGDNRKNQLKDMAIATGGAVFGEEGLTLNLEDVQPHDLGKVGEVIV :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	FGEEGLTLNI :: : TSEE-VGLTI	EDVQPHDLGR	YVGEVIV
	351	360	370	380	390	400	410	420
HUMP1	TKDD	AMLLKGKGDR	AQIEKRIQEI	IEQLDVTTSE	, TKDDAMLLKGKGDKAQIEKRIQEIIEQLDVTTSEYEKEKLNERLAKLSDGVAVLKVGGTSDVEVNEKKDR	, aklsdgvavi	, KVGGTSDVEV	NEKKDR
ML65E	TKDE	TIVEGAGDI	: : : DAIAGRVAOI	RTEIENSDSI	TKDETTIVEGAGDTDAIAGRVAOIRTEIENSDSDYDREKLOERLAKTAGGVAVTENGGARAFENGGA	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		

0						
490	GVEGSLI	GMEPGV	560	, KDPGMGA	AAPASDP	
480	IPAMTIAKNA	APLKQIAFNS	550	, VVVTEIPKEE:	:: AVVADKPEKT	
470	VTDALNATRAAVEEGIVLGGGCALLRCIPALDSLTPANEDQKIGIEIIKRTLKIPAMTIAKNAGVEGSLI	: ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	540	VEKIMQSSSEVGYDAMAGDFVNMVEKGIIDPTKVVRTALLDAAGVASLLTTAEVVVTEIPKEEKDPGMGA	AEKVRNLSVGHGLNAATGEXEDLLKAGVADPVKVTRSALQNAASIAGLFTT-EAVVADKPEKTAAPASDP	
460	TPANEDOKI	KLTGDEAT-	530	VRTALLDAA	: :: :: TRSALQNAA	
450	LLRCIPALDSI	LQAAPALDKI	520	/EKGIIDPTKV	KAGVADPVKV	
440	EGIVLGGGCA	EGIVAGGGVTI	510	DAMAGDEVNM	Naatgeyedli	
430	<b>ALNATRAAVE</b>	: ::: AVRNAKAAVE	200	<b>IMQSSSEVGY</b>	: Trnlsvghglnaatge:	570
421	VID	IED	491	VEK	AEK	561
	HUMP1	ML65K	•	HUMP1	ML65K	

Mean = 3413.16

23.86

Standard deviation =

47.73 SD

25 random runs Alignment score = FIGURE 3 (continued)

Total 255

score = 4552, 7 breaks identities out of 540 possible matches between residues

MGGMGGGMGGGMF ::::: TGGMGG-MD---F

ML65K

HUMP1

	<b> &gt;</b>	10	20	30	40	20	09	70
HUMP1 TB65K	MLRLI M	PTVFROMRI	VSRVLAPHLI	MLRLPTVFRQMRPVSRVLAPHLTRAYAKDVKFGADARALMLQGVDLLADAVAVTMGPKGRTVIIEQSWGS : :	adaralmlqg :: Eearrglerg	VDLLADAVAV ::::: LNALADAVKV	AKDVKFGADARALMLOGVDLLADAVAVTMGPKGRTVIIEQSWGS:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	IEQSWGS ::: LEKKWGA
	71	80	06	100	110	120	130	140
HUMP1 TB65K	PKVTKI : : :	KDGVTVAK:	SIDLKDKYKNI : : : : :	DGVTVAKSIDLKDKYKNIGAKLVQDVANNTNEEAGDGTTTATVLARSIAKEGFEKISKGANPVEI ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	NTNEEAGDGT : :::: KTDDVAGDGT	TTATVLARSI :::::: TTATVLAQAL	IAKEGFEKISK ::: RREGLRNVAA	GANPVEI :::: GANPLGL
HUMP1	141 , RRGVA	150 MLAVDAVI?	160 NELKKQSKPVT	j 150 160 170 180 190 200 210 RRGVMLAVDAVIAELKKQSKPVTTPEEIAQVATISANGDKEIGNIISDAMKKVGRKGVITVKDGKTLNDE	180 ISANGDKEIG	190 NIISDAMKKV	. 200 GRKGVITVKD	210 GKTLNDE
тв65к	KRGIE	: : EKAVEKVTE	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	:: :: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	:: :: :: ISA-GDQSIG	: :: : DLIAEAMDKV	GNEGVITVEE	SNTFGLQ
	211	220	230	240	250	260	270	280
HUMP1 TB65K	LEIIE	EGMKFDRG) ::::::::	ISPYFINTSK :: :: 'ISGYFVTDPE	LEIIEGMKFDRGYISPYFINTSKGQKCEFQDAYVLLSEKKISSIQSIVPALEIANAHRKPLVIIAEDVDG :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	VLLSEKKISS :: : : ILLVSSKVST	IQSIVPALEI : :: VKDLLPLLEK	ANAHRKPLVI::::	IAEDVDG
	281	290	300	310	320	330	340	350
HUMP1	EALSTI	FLVENREKV	GLQVVAVKAP	VLNRLKVGLQVVAVKAPGFGDNRKNQLKDMAIATGGAVFGEEGLTLNLEDVQPHDLGKVGEVIV	KDMAIATGGA	VFGEEGLTLN:	LEDVQPHDLG	KVGEVIV
	351	360	370	ပ်ခင	390	400	410	420
HUMP1	TKDDA	MLLKGKGD	KAQIEKRIQE	TKDDAMLLKGKGDKAQIEKRIQEIIEQLDVTTSEYEKEKLNERLAKLSDGVAVLKVGGTSDVEVNEKKDR	SYEKEKLNER	LAKLSDGVAV	LKVGGTSDVE	VNEKKDR
TB65K	TKDETT	TIVEGAGD	: TDAIAGRVAQ	: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	: :: :: XDX	LAKLAGGVAV	IKAGAATEVEI	: : : LKERKHR

IGURE 4

	421	430	440	450	460	470	480	490
HUMP1	VIDALNA	LNATRAAVEE	GIVLGGGCAL	TRAAVEEGIVLGGGCALLRCIPALDSLTPANEDOKIGIEIIKRTLKIPAMTIAKNAGVEGSLI	PANEDOKI	GIEIIKRTLKI	PAMTIAKNAG	VEGSLI
тв65к	IEDA	:::: VRNAKAAVEE	GIVAGGGVTL	::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	: -LEGDEAT(	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	PLKQIAFNSG	: LEPGVV
	491	200	510	520	530	540	550	260
HUMP1	VEKIMOS	MQSSSEVGYD	AMAGDEVNMV	SSEVGYDAMAGDFVNMVEKGIIDPTKVVRTALLDAAGVASLLTTAEVVVTEIPKEEKDPGMGA	RTALLDAA(	SVASLLTTAEV	VVTEIPKEEK	DPGMGA
TB65K	AEKV	: Rnlpaghgln	: RQTGVYEDLL	:: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	RSALQNAA	S STATE STATES STAGE STATE STATES STA	.:: :: .:.	: ASVPG-
	561	570						
HUMP1	MGGMGGG	GGGMGGGMF						

FIGURE 4 (continued)

Mean = 3413.16

23.23

Standard deviation

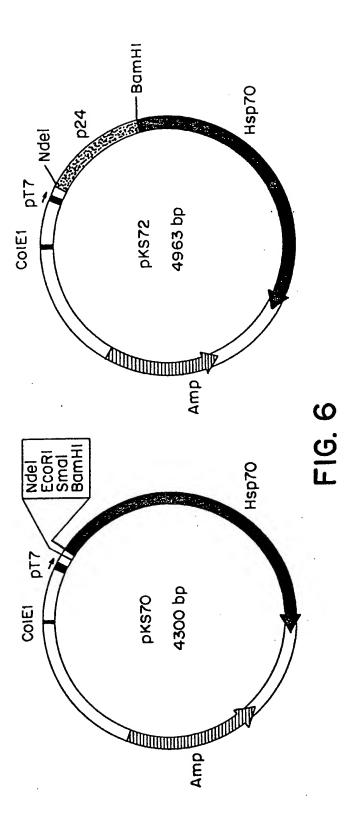
49.36 SD

25 random runs Alignment score -

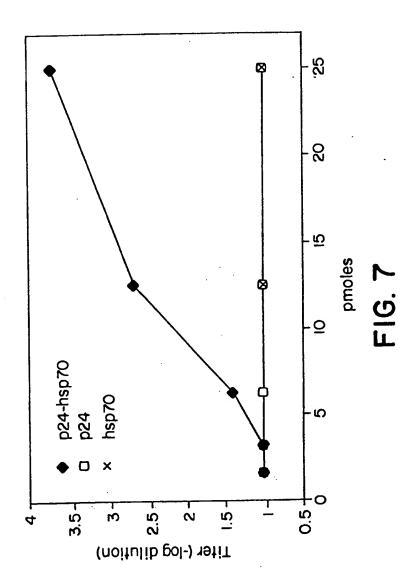
Total 257

TB65K

score = 4560, 5 breaks identities out of 540 possible matches between residues



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A. CLAS IPC 5	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C12N15/62 C07K15/04 A61K39	)/295	A61K39/04	
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Electronic	data base consulted during the international search (name of data	base and, w	where practical, search terms used)	
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which i	is cited to establish the publication date of another n or other special reason (as specified)	CADD	ument of particular relevance; the claimed invention not be considered to involve an inventive step when th	
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	Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,	· [ '	Fuhr, C	

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